

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12
L-03 USIA-06 /087 W
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P R 160505Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8326
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY CASABLANCA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3503

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, SA
SUBJECT: DEMARCH ON ILO

REF: STATE 102699

1. IN MEETING WITH MINISTER AL ANQARI MAY 14, US REP
TO ILO HOROWITZ REVIEWED US POSITION ON REFORM OF ILO
AND NEED FOR SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF COMING GENEVA
CONFERENCE. IN NOTING THAT USG WISHES STRONGLY TO AVOID
FORMAL ACTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL OR ANY OTHER MEMBER WITHOUT
PRIOR RECOURSE TO TESTED PROCEDURES OF ILO, HOROWITZ
POINTED OUT THAT LABOR PRACTICES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
LIKELY TO ARISE IN COMMITTEE ON APPLICATIONS OF
CONVENTIONS, AND THAT ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE MEANS EXIST
ALREADY FOR ILO MEMBERS TO CHALLENGE OTHER
MEMBERS' PRACTICES WHEN CONSIDERED NECESSARY. IT
IMPORTANT THAT CONSIDERATION OF THESE QUESTIONS NOT TAKE
FORM WHICH COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE OR VIOLATE PRINCIPLES
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OF ORGANIZATION. HOROWITZ NOTED, WITH RESPECT TO ARTICLE
17 AMENDMENT, THAT RESOLUTIONS OF TRIPOLI AFRICAN LABOR
MINISTER'S CONFERENCE WERE NOT HELPFUL, AND THAT USG
HOPED THAT LIBYANS AND ALGERIANS NOT SET THE TONE FOR ALL
ARAB PARTICIPANTS. MINISTER AL ANQARI LISTENED ATTENT-
IVELY BUT DID NOT COMMENT IN DETAIL. HE NOTED THAT, FOLLOW-
ING CONSULTATIONS IN FEBRUARY WITH ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL

BLANCHARD, CROWN PRINCE FAHD HAD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT USG COULD BE INDUCED TO STAY IN ILO. MINISTER REAFFIRMED THAT HOPE ON PART OF SAG AND SAID HE WOULD INFORM CROWN PRINCE OF CONVERSATION. HE SAID HE WOULD BE PROCEEDING TO GENVA FOLLOWING MEETING IN RABAT, AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATIONS BEFORE OPENING OF ILO CONFERENCE.

2. WITH BOTH MINISTER AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OUT OF TOWN, HOROWITZ MET MAY 15 WITH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES DIRECTOR NAJI MUFTI TO COVER ESSENTIALLY SAME POINTS AS ABOVE. MUFTI EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PROPOSED US AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17, WHICH HE APPARENTLY DID NOT HAVE, BUT EXPRESSED OPINION THAT US PROPOSAL IS BASICALLY "ANTI-ARAB". HE SAID HE WOULD SHORTLY BE PREPARING PAPER FOR FOREIGN MINISTER, COMMENTING ON ARAB LEAGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT (WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO URGE BURYING IT IN STRUCTURE COMMITTEE). HOROWITZ IN REPLY STRESSED USG CONCERN FOR DUE PROCESS AND OPPOSITION TO CONDEMNATION WITHOUT INVESTIGATION. MUFTI NOTED THAT SAG WAS INTERESTED THAT US REMAIN IN ORGANIZATION, AND SAID HE HOPED USG WOULD WITHDRAW ITS LETTER OF INTENT. WHAT, HE ASKED, WOULD BE US POSITION IF QUESTION OF ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT SIMPLY PUT OFF FOR A YEAR ON PRETEXT OF "NECESSARY STUDIES"? HOROWITZ NOTED THAT USG UNLIKELY TO WITHDRAW ITS LETTER EXCEPT IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH REFLECT DESIRE OF MEMBERSHIP TO REINFORCE THE NORMAL PROCEDURES OF THE ILO; ANY PROPOSAL WHICH REAFFIRMED THE POSSIBILITY OF CONDEMNATION WITHOUT INVESTIGATION WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE. FOR THIS REASON US FELT STRONGLY THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT BE CONSIDERED AT THE JUNE CONFERENCE. HE NOTED USG REMAINED UNCERTAIN AS TO WHY THERE HAD NEVER BEEN A NORMAL REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF ISRAELI LABOR PRACTICES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, BUT MUFTI DID NOT RESPOND. MUFTI AGREED THAT SAG REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH USG AT GENEVA, AND SAID HE WOULD BE COORDINATING SAG POSITION WITH MINISTRY OF LABOR IN LIGHT OF THIS CONVERSATION.

3. WE PREPARING PAPER WITH SALIENT POINTS OF USG POSITION FOR MUFTI, AND WILL ALSO GET COPY TO DEPUTY MINISTER OFR HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION.

4. RECOMMENDATION FOR WASHINGTON ACTION FOLLOWS IN SEPTTEL.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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